

Schinnen Safe Rider - Motorcycle Safety

SPRINGING INTO SUMMER

Winter's finally over, the roads are snow and ice free and the sun is bright and warm on your face. You've tuned up the bike and you're ready to hit the open highways and beautiful mountain passes, right? Wrong! Now it's time for you to tune up as well.

An easy mistake to make this time of year is to assume you can jump on your bike and instantly be as safe as you were last year. Experienced riders know it's not that simple. Refreshing basic skills, and preparing physically and mentally are essential elements to ensuring a safe start to the riding season.

Cast your mind back to the motorcycle proficiency skills you learned during your last Motorcycle Safety Foundation (MSF) Basic or Experienced Rider Course. Remember how you refined your skills and increased riding ability upon completion. If you haven't attended an MSF course lately or just want to take a course to refresh basic riding skills like performing U-turns, S-curves and quick stops, call your local DTS and sign up for a class. Classes are scheduled throughout the motorcycle riding season.

After you've received the needed training and you're out on the road again, manage and reduce risk by using techniques like S.E.E., SEE means to "S" = Search for hazards in your path of travel that could adversely affect your ride, "E" = Evaluate situations for the best solution to counter any adverse riding factors, and "E" = Execute actions to avoid hazards. Used correctly, SEE will ensure your ride is hazard free.

And while you're at it, don't forget to tune up your physical and mental ability too. Start with short rides and taking frequent scheduled breaks before you attempt a long distance cross country rides that require significant amounts of physical and mental ability. And lastly, get plenty of rest before heading out. Their preparations will enable you to have a accident and incident free riding season.

Schinnen Safe Riders Drive to Arrive.

U.S. Army Garrison Schinnen, Installation Safety Office